

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

Eastern District of New York

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

v.

Carlos Watson

Date of Original Judgment: 1/6/2025
(Or Date of Last Amended Judgment)

AMENDED JUDGMENT IN A CRIMINAL CASE

Case Number: 1:23-cr-00082-EK-1

USM Number: 45695-510

Andrew Frisch, Esq.; Ronald Sullivan, Esq.; Janine Gilbert, Esq.

Defendant's Attorney

THE DEFENDANT:

☐ pleaded guilty to count(s)

☐ pleaded nolo contendere to count(s) which was accepted by the court.

☒ was found guilty on count(s) 1, 2, & 3 after a plea of not guilty.

The defendant is adjudicated guilty of these offenses:

Title & Section	Nature of Offense	Offense Ended	Count
18 U.S.C. § 371; 15 U.S.C. §§ 78j, 78ff	Conspiracy to Commit Securities Fraud	10/31/2021	1

(continued on following page)

The defendant is sentenced as provided in pages 2 through 9 of this judgment. The sentence is imposed pursuant to the Sentencing Reform Act of 1984.

☐ The defendant has been found not guilty on count(s)

☐ Count(s) is ☐ are dismissed on the motion of the United States.

It is ordered that the defendant must notify the United States Attorney for this district within 30 days of any change of name, residence, or mailing address until all fines, restitution, costs, and special assessments imposed by this judgment are fully paid. If ordered to pay restitution, the defendant must notify the court and United States attorney of material changes in economic circumstances.

December 16, 2024

Date of Imposition of Judgment

/s/ Eric Komitee

Signature of Judge

Eric Komitee

U.S.D.J.

Name and Title of Judge

February 26, 2025

Date

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ADDITIONAL COUNTS OF CONVICTION

<u>Title & Section</u>	<u>Nature of Offense</u>	<u>Offense Ended</u>	<u>Count</u>
18 U.S.C. § 1343, 1349	Conspiracy to Commit Wire Fraud	10/31/2021	2
18 U.S.C. § 1028A(a)(1), (b)	Aggravated Identity Theft	2/28/2021	3

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IMPRISONMENT

The defendant is hereby committed to the custody of the Federal Bureau of Prisons to be imprisoned for a total term of :

Count 1: 60 months. Count 2: 92 months. Count 3: 24 months. Counts 1 and 2 shall run concurrently with one another, but both shall run consecutively to Count 3.

- ☒ The court makes the following recommendations to the Bureau of Prisons:
The Court recommends that the defendant be designated to FCI Lompoc, California, to facilitate family visits.
- ☐ The defendant is remanded to the custody of the United States Marshal.
- ☐ The defendant shall surrender to the United States Marshal for this district:

☐ at _____ ☐ a.m. ☐ p.m. on _____ .
☐ as notified by the United States Marshal.
- ☒ The defendant shall surrender for service of sentence at the institution designated by the Bureau of Prisons:

☒ before 2 p.m. on 3/28/2025 .
☐ as notified by the United States Marshal.
☐ as notified by the Probation or Pretrial Services Office.

RETURN

I have executed this judgment as follows:

Defendant delivered on _____ to _____
at _____ with a certified copy of this judgment.

UNITED STATES MARSHAL

By _____
DEPUTY UNITED STATES MARSHAL

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SUPERVISED RELEASE

Upon release from imprisonment, you will be on supervised release for a term of :

Count 1: Two years; Count 2: Two years; and Count 3: One year. All terms shall run concurrently.

MANDATORY CONDITIONS

1. You must not commit another federal, state or local crime.
2. You must not unlawfully possess a controlled substance.
3. You must refrain from any unlawful use of a controlled substance. You must submit to one drug test within 15 days of release from imprisonment and at least two periodic drug tests thereafter, as determined by the court.
 - ☒ The above drug testing condition is suspended, based on the court's determination that you pose a low risk of future substance abuse. *(check if applicable)*
4. ☐ You must make restitution in accordance with 18 U.S.C. § 3663 and 3663A or any other statute authorizing a sentence of restitution. *(check if applicable)*
5. ☒ You must cooperate in the collection of DNA as directed by the probation officer. *(check if applicable)*
6. ☐ You must comply with the requirements of the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act (34 U.S.C. § 20901, *et seq.*) as directed by the probation officer, the Bureau of Prisons, or any state sex offender registration agency in the location where you reside, work, are a student, or were convicted of a qualifying offense. *(check if applicable)*
7. ☐ You must participate in an approved program for domestic violence. *(check if applicable)*

You must comply with the standard conditions that have been adopted by this court as well as with any other conditions on the attached page.

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STANDARD CONDITIONS OF SUPERVISION

As part of your supervised release, you must comply with the following standard conditions of supervision. These conditions are imposed because they establish the basic expectations for your behavior while on supervision and identify the minimum tools needed by probation officers to keep informed, report to the court about, and bring about improvements in your conduct and condition.

1. You must report to the probation office in the federal judicial district where you are authorized to reside within 72 hours of your release from imprisonment, unless the probation officer instructs you to report to a different probation office or within a different time frame.
2. After initially reporting to the probation office, you will receive instructions from the court or the probation officer about how and when you must report to the probation officer, and you must report to the probation officer as instructed.
3. You must not knowingly leave the federal judicial district where you are authorized to reside without first getting permission from the court or the probation officer.
4. You must answer truthfully the questions asked by your probation officer.
5. You must live at a place approved by the probation officer. If you plan to change where you live or anything about your living arrangements (such as the people you live with), you must notify the probation officer at least 10 days before the change. If notifying the probation officer in advance is not possible due to unanticipated circumstances, you must notify the probation officer within 72 hours of becoming aware of a change or expected change.
6. You must allow the probation officer to visit you at any time at your home or elsewhere, and you must permit the probation officer to take any items prohibited by the conditions of your supervision that he or she observes in plain view.
7. You must work full time (at least 30 hours per week) at a lawful type of employment, unless the probation officer excuses you from doing so. If you do not have full-time employment you must try to find full-time employment, unless the probation officer excuses you from doing so. If you plan to change where you work or anything about your work (such as your position or your job responsibilities), you must notify the probation officer at least 10 days before the change. If notifying the probation officer at least 10 days in advance is not possible due to unanticipated circumstances, you must notify the probation officer within 72 hours of becoming aware of a change or expected change.
8. You must not communicate or interact with someone you know is engaged in criminal activity. If you know someone has been convicted of a felony, you must not knowingly communicate or interact with that person without first getting the permission of the probation officer.
9. If you are arrested or questioned by a law enforcement officer, you must notify the probation officer within 72 hours.
10. You must not own, possess, or have access to a firearm, ammunition, destructive device, or dangerous weapon (i.e., anything that was designed, or was modified for, the specific purpose of causing bodily injury or death to another person such as nunchakus or tasers).
11. You must not act or make any agreement with a law enforcement agency to act as a confidential human source or informant without first getting the permission of the court.
12. If the probation officer determines that you pose a risk to another person (including an organization), the probation officer may require you to notify the person about the risk and you must comply with that instruction. The probation officer may contact the person and confirm that you have notified the person about the risk.
13. You must follow the instructions of the probation officer related to the conditions of supervision.

U.S. Probation Office Use Only

A U.S. probation officer has instructed me on the conditions specified by the court and has provided me with a written copy of this judgment containing these conditions. For further information regarding these conditions, see *Overview of Probation and Supervised Release Conditions*, available at: www.uscourts.gov.

Defendant's Signature _____

Date _____

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SPECIAL CONDITIONS OF SUPERVISION

The Court ordered the following special conditions of supervision:

1. The defendant shall comply with the restitution order.
2. Upon request, the defendant shall provide the U.S. Probation Department with full disclosure of his financial records, including co-mingled income, expenses, assets, and liabilities, to include yearly income tax returns. Except for the financial accounts reported and noted within the presentence report, the defendant is prohibited from maintaining and/or opening any additional individual and/or joint checking, savings, or other financial accounts, for either personal or business purposes, without the knowledge and approval of the U.S. Probation Department. For the avoidance of doubt, the defendant shall disclose to the U.S. Probation Department any ownership stake in any venture, however organized. The defendant shall cooperate with the Probation Officer in the investigation of his financial dealings and shall provide truthful monthly statements of his income and expenses. The defendant shall cooperate in the signing of any necessary authorization to release information forms permitting the U.S. Probation Department access to his financial information and records.
3. The defendant shall notify the U.S. Probation Department in writing before beginning any self-employment, including any independent, entrepreneurial, or freelance activity. While self-employed, the defendant shall provide the U.S. Probation Department with full disclosure of his self-employment and other business records, including, but not limited to, all the records identified in the Probation Form 48F (Request for Self-Employment Records), or as otherwise requested by the U.S. Probation Department.
4. The defendant shall obtain written approval from the U.S. Probation Department before raising or soliciting funds for any business venture.
5. The defendant is prohibited from opening any lines of credit or incurring any new monetary loan, obligation, or debt, by whatever name known, without the advance written approval of the U.S. Probation Department. The defendant is prohibited from becoming an authorized user on any other individual's credit, charge, or debt account, without the approval of the U.S. Probation Department. The defendant shall not encumber or liquidate an interest in any asset unless all proceeds of such encumbrance or liquidation are paid in service of the fine and/or restitution obligation, or otherwise approved in advance and in writing by the U.S. Probation Department.
6. The defendant shall not occupy or maintain any fiduciary role or capacity without the prior permission of the U.S. Probation Department.

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CRIMINAL MONETARY PENALTIES

The defendant must pay the following total criminal monetary penalties under the schedule of payments on Sheet 6.

	<u>Assessment</u>	<u>Restitution</u>	<u>Fine</u>	<u>AVAA Assessment*</u>	<u>JVTA Assessment**</u>
TOTALS	\$ 300.00	\$ 36,769,153.97	\$	\$	\$

- ☐ The determination of restitution is deferred until . An Amended Judgment in a Criminal Case (AO 245C) will be entered after such determination.
- ☐ The defendant shall make restitution (including community restitution) to the following payees in the amount listed below.

If the defendant makes a partial payment, each payee shall receive an approximately proportioned payment, unless specified otherwise in the priority order or percentage payment column below. However, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3664(i), all nonfederal victims must be paid before the United States is paid.

<u>Name of Payee</u>	<u>Total Loss***</u>	<u>Restitution Ordered</u>	<u>Priority or Percentage</u>
Antara Capital Master Fund LP	\$22,955,942.77	\$22,955,942.77	100%
WTI	\$1,810,869.87	\$1,810,869.87	100%
Thomas C. Franco	\$3,595,000.00	\$3,595,000.00	100%
Alex Rodriguez Declaration Of Trust	\$2,526,388.35	\$2,526,388.35	100%
Lifeline Legacy Holdings LLC	\$2,249,997.64	\$2,249,997.64	100%
Interlock Partners Fund I, LP	\$2,039,574.47	\$2,039,574.47	100%
Richard Ossoff	\$550,000.00	\$550,000.00	100%
Axel Springer Digital Ventures	\$471,380.87	\$471,380.87	100%
Shawn Guttersen	\$245,000.00	\$245,000.00	100%
Ali Iz	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00	100%
(continued on next page)			
TOTALS	\$ 36,769,153.97	\$ 36,769,153.97	

- ☐ Restitution amount ordered pursuant to plea agreement \$
- ☐ The defendant must pay interest on restitution and a fine of more than \$2,500, unless the restitution or fine is paid in full before the fifteenth day after the date of the judgment, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3612(f). All of the payment options on Sheet 6 may be subject to penalties for delinquency and default, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3612(g).
- ☐ The court determined that the defendant does not have the ability to pay interest, and it is ordered that:

☐ the interest requirement is waived for ☐ fine ☐ restitution.

☐ the interest requirement for the ☐ fine ☐ restitution is modified as follows:

* Amy, Vicky, and Andy Child Pornography Victim Assistance Act of 2018, Pub. L. No. 115-299.
** Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act of 2015, Pub. L. No. 114-22.
*** Findings for the total amount of losses are required under Chapters 109A, 110, 110A, and 113A of Title 18 for offenses committed on or after September 13, 1994, but before April 23, 1996.

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ADDITIONAL RESTITUTION PAYEES

<u>Name of Payee</u>	<u>Total Loss*</u>	<u>Restitution Ordered</u>	<u>Priority or Percentage</u>
Erik R. Manuel	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00	100%
Terry Alan Crews / Rebecca Anne Anna	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	100%
M. Diop	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	100%
Karrueche Tran	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	100%
Lenard Mckelvey	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	100%
Hannibal Buress	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	100%
Josephine Aniobi	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	100%
Joshua D. Martin and Carol E. Martin	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	100%

* Findings for the total amount of losses are required by Chapters 109A, 110, 110A, and 113A of Title 18 for offenses committed on or after September 13, 1994, but before April 23, 1996.

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SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

Having assessed the defendant’s ability to pay, payment of the total criminal monetary penalties shall be due as follows:

- A ☒ Lump sum payment of \$ 300.00 due immediately, balance due
- ☐ not later than _____, or
☐ in accordance with ☐ C, ☐ D, ☐ E, or ☐ F below; or
- B ☐ Payment to begin immediately (may be combined with ☐ C, ☐ D, or ☐ F below); or
- C ☐ Payment in equal _____ (e.g., weekly, monthly, quarterly) installments of \$ _____ over a period of _____ (e.g., months or years), to commence _____ (e.g., 30 or 60 days) after the date of this judgment; or
- D ☐ Payment in equal _____ (e.g., weekly, monthly, quarterly) installments of \$ _____ over a period of _____ (e.g., months or years), to commence _____ (e.g., 30 or 60 days) after release from imprisonment to a term of supervision; or
- E ☐ Payment during the term of supervised release will commence within _____ (e.g., 30 or 60 days) after release from imprisonment. The court will set the payment plan based on an assessment of the defendant’s ability to pay at that time; or
- F ☒ Special instructions regarding the payment of criminal monetary penalties:
An amended order of forfeiture is attached and is incorporated herein pursuant to Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 32.2(b) (4).

Unless the court has expressly ordered otherwise, if this judgment imposes imprisonment, payment of criminal monetary penalties is due during the period of imprisonment. All criminal monetary penalties, except those payments made through the Federal Bureau of Prisons’ Inmate Financial Responsibility Program, are made to the clerk of the court.

The defendant shall receive credit for all payments previously made toward any criminal monetary penalties imposed.

☐ Joint and Several

Case Number Defendant and Co-Defendant Names (including defendant number)	Total Amount	Joint and Several Amount	Corresponding Payee, if appropriate.
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- ☐ The defendant shall pay the cost of prosecution.
- ☐ The defendant shall pay the following court cost(s):
- ☐ The defendant shall forfeit the defendant’s interest in the following property to the United States:

Payments shall be applied in the following order: (1) assessment, (2) restitution principal, (3) restitution interest, (4) AVAA assessment, (5) fine principal, (6) fine interest, (7) community restitution, (8) JVTa assessment, (9) penalties, and (10) costs, including cost of prosecution and court costs.